# Mountain Weather Forecast

## Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 27 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Thursday 28 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 26 Dec 2023 at 17:27 by Met Office Aberdeen

**Confidence:** High for Wednesday, although some uncertainty in the timing of the rise in freezing levels in the afternoon. High for changeable weather to continue into the weekend.

**Headline for Wednesday 27 Dec 2023:** Stormy with widespread heavy snow, drier later.

**Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 27 Dec 2023**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Blizzards**<br>High Likelihood | **Heavy persistent snow**<br>High Likelihood | **Storm force winds**<br>High Likelihood |
| **Gales**<br>High Likelihood | **Severe chill effect**<br>High Likelihood | **Poor visibility**<br>High Likelihood |
| **Thunderstorms**<br>No Likelihood | **Heavy persistent rain**<br>No Likelihood | **Strong sunlight**<br>No Likelihood |

| **Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m** | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Time | | | | | | | |
| 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 |
| Cloudy | Light snow | Heavy snow | Heavy snow | Heavy snow | Heavy snow | Hail showers (night) | Partly cloudy (night) |
| Precipitation probability | | | | | | | |
| 00% | 30% | 50% | >95% | >95% | 70% | 30% | 30% |

**Forecast for Wednesday 27 Dec 2023**

**Weather:** Widespread heavy snow will develop by mid-morning, this lasting until late afternoon. Snow will turn to rain as it clears away, with some showers of rain, sleet and snow following on behind. Very treacherous conditions expected widely with gusty winds across all upland areas.

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** Little chance for much of the day. Low cloud will clear from the southwest in the evening.

**Low cloud and visibility:** Whiteout conditions expected in snow for much of the day with extensive cloud down to 500 metres. Markedly improving as cloud clears in the evening but some mistiness still likely.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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# Mountain Weather Forecast

**Forecast for Wednesday 27 Dec 2023**

| Height (m) | Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) | | | | | Wind Direction (blowing from) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **1000** | 40/48 SE | 48/57 E | 53/65 E | 68/85 E | 60/75 E | 35/46 E | 28/34 S | 24/31 S | 21/28 S |
| **900** | 40/48 SE | 45/54 E | 50/62 E | 64/80 E | 56/71 E | 36/47 E | 25/32 S | 23/30 S | 21/27 S |
| **600** | 26/36 SE | 30/41 E | 36/48 E | 47/63 E | 41/57 E | 29/42 E | 17/25 S | 15/23 S | 12/18 S |
| **300** | 7/29 E | 9/37 E | 11/45 E | 16/61 E | 14/53 E | 14/36 E | 4/17 SE | 4/20 S | 3/16 S |
| **Glen** | 21/36 E | 22/42 E | 23/45 E | 33/64 E | 29/57 E | 26/44 E | 11/22 SE | 10/21 S | 5/12 S |

| Height (m) | Temperature / Feels Like (°C) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 00:00 | 03:00 | 06:00 | 09:00 | 12:00 | 15:00 | 18:00 | 21:00 | 00:00 |
| **1000** | -4/-15 | -5/-17 | -4/-16 | -3/-15 | -3/-15 | -3/-13 | -2/-10 | -2/-10 | -2/-9 |
| **900** | -4/-14 | -4/-15 | -4/-15 | -2/-14 | -2/-14 | -3/-12 | -1/-8 | -2/-9 | -2/-8 |
| **600** | -1/-9 | -1/-10 | -1/-10 | -1/-10 | -1/-10 | -1/-9 | 1/-5 | 1/-5 | 0/-4 |
| **300** | -0/-4 | 0/-4 | 1/-4 | -0/-6 | -0/-6 | -0/-6 | 1/-2 | 2/-0 | 2/-0 |
| **Glen** | 3/-3 | 3/-3 | 4/-2 | 2/-5 | 2/-5 | 2/-4 | 4/1 | 4/1 | 4/2 |
| **Freezing Level*** | 200m | 200m | 400m | 400m | 400m | 400m | 700m | 600m | 700m |

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

**Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View**

A very treacherous day across all ranges with heavy, drifting snow and storm force winds. Speeds may reach 100 mph across Sutherland for a time in the afternoon. A thaw of lying snow is likely for as freezing levels start to rise, so burns and paths at lower levels may see some flooding across the southwest of the area. Freezing levels may rise to 1200 to 1500 metres across Skye, more western parts of Lochaber and Wester Ross for a time in the afternoon with a quicker transition to rain or sleet here. Then freezing level more widely becoming 800 metres as the evening progresses.

**Forecast for Thursday 28 Dec 2023**

**Weather:** Mostly cloudy with some showers or longer spells of rain, with snow above 700 metres or so. Turning drier from the north in the evening. Cold summit winds.

**Maximum wind:** Southerly 25 mph with gusts to 35 mph

**Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m:** 40%, best chance in the morning

**Low cloud and visibility:** Very good outside of cloud and precipitation. Areas of cloud between 600 and 900 metres, this most extensive in the afternoon.

**Temperature:** **Glens:** Minus 1 rising to 4 Celsius
**At 800m:** Plus 1 Celsius
**Freezing level:** 900 metres

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